

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of the present application is requested in view of the comments and amendments made herein.

Claims 1-7, 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner cited language in claims 1 and 5. With regard to claim 1, the phrase cited by the Examiner has been deleted. As such, the rejection of claim 1 is believed to be moot. With regard to claim 5, the term "collecting part" is now included in claim 1. There is now sufficient antecedent basis for this term in claim 5. As such, the rejection of claim 5 is believed to be moot. Therefore, the rejection of claims 1-7, 9 and 10 has been addressed. Withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7 and 9 were rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Payzant (US 5,937,879). Traversal of this rejection is made for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 has been amended and now states "wherein when the coarse sieve (33) is in the second position, the collecting part (34) is positioned above the one or several fine filters (18, 19)." Support for this amendment may be found at least on page 3, lines 23-28 and in Fig. 4. Payzant fails to describe such structure.

In distinction, Payzant teaches that when the pump filter 144 is raised, as shown in Fig. 6, the pump filter 144 is positioned below the screen 138. As such, "water flowing through the opening 140 must pass through the perforations 149 of the body 146 in order to enter the sump 110 whether the pump filter is in the seated position of FIG. 5 or the unseated position of FIG. 6." Col. 6, lines 45-49.

Therefore, Payzant fails to teach "wherein when the coarse sieve (33) is in the second position, the collecting part (34) is positioned above the one or several fine filters (18, 19)," as stated in claim 1. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Claims 2-7 and 9 depend from independent claim 1 that is believed to be in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed above. As such, withdrawal of the corresponding rejection of claims 2-7 and 9 is respectfully requested.

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Payzant (US 5,937,879). Traversal of this rejection is made for at least the following reasons. Claim 9 depends from claim 1, which is believed to be allowable over Payzant for the reasons discussed above. Accordingly, withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Payzant (US 5,937,879) in view of Taylor, Jr. et al. (US 5,660,195). Traversal of this rejection is made for at least the following reasons. Claim 10 depends from claim 1, which is believed to be allowable over Payzant for the reasons discussed above. Taylor, Jr. et al. does not make up for these deficiencies. Accordingly, claim 10 is believed to be allowable over the combination of Payzant and Taylor, Jr. et al. Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

In consideration of the foregoing analysis, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. ABE-38790.

Respectfully submitted,

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